

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11 and 12 are pending.

In a previous office action claims 2-8 and 11 were allowed.

In the office action dated 06/07/04 the examiner required restriction between the claims, which the examiner called Group 1 (claims 1-8 and 11) and Group 2 (claims 9 and 12).

Applicant hereby provisionally elects the claims in Group I (Claims 1-8 and 11); however, applicant traverses the restriction requirement and requests reconsideration for the following reasons.

The examiner states that:

"The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons: Group I relates to system for interconnecting telephones and computers. The system acts as a bridge between two networks. Group II deals with transmitting calls for DSL channels through a PSTN, which is a circuit switching network."

The examiner states that the claims in group 1 "are drawn to a bridge or gateway" and fall in class 370/401 and that the claims in group 2 "are drawn to circuit switching networks" and that they fall in class 370/357.

All of applicant claims relate to a network "edge device". That is, to a device that sits at the customer premises edge of a network connection for access to public or private services including voice and data."

For example claim 1 calls for:

"A system for interconnecting telephones and computersincluding:....
trunk interconnection resources.....
data traffic generating devices.....
voice traffic generating devices"

The system sends traffic from the "data" and "voice" devices out over the trunk.

In a similar fashion to the elements recited in claim 1, claim 12 calls for:

"...a system for transmitting calls from DSO channelsthrough a public
..... telephone system".

While the applicant's system may have a network within itself, all of applicant's claim recite a system that sends calls and data (from units within the system) out over a WAN (i.e. the public network) via a connection such as a trunk line. That is, all of applicant's claim related to a network edge device.

Applicant submits that all of applicants' claims more appropriately fall into either subclass 370/418 or 370/420.

Class 370/418 is defined as:

"Contention resolution for output: Subject matter having a particular protocol to resolve the problem of unregulated bidding for an output line by multiple messages from different inputs."

Class 370/420 is defined as:

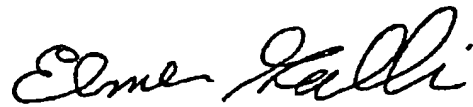
For connecting plural subscribers to a network (i.e., network termination):
This subclass is indented under subclass 419. Subject matter wherein the input or output circuit interfaces more than one terminal to a transmission line network

The above subclasses are directed to network edge devices which connect a system to the public or private network. Applicant's system allocates bandwidth on a trunk line in order to connect multiple telephones and data sources to a network. "

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

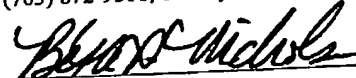
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